

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

On page 1, above “Background of the Invention”, please insert the following paragraph:

CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application is a divisional of application Serial No. 09/383,366 filed August 26, 1999. In addition, this application claims the benefit of the earlier filing date of Japanese Patent No. 10-240731, filed August 26, 1998, the entire contents of which are hereby incorporated herein by reference.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 2, line 17, as follows:

Further, in order to simplify the construction of the power combiner 18, it is necessary to supply the amplified signals to the power combiner 18 via band-pass filters 14-1, 14-2, ..., 14-n having high channel selectivity. However, since the pass bands are fixed in the conventional filters, it is impossible to change the frequency of the carrier signal of each channel if the pass bands of the filters 14-1, 14-2, ..., 14-n are set to correspond to the bands of signals of the respective channels output from the signal generators 12-1, 12-2, ..., 12-n. In the actual transmission system, there is a request for changing the carrier frequency of each channel to a carrier frequency of another channel assigned to the system or there will be a request for changing the bandwidth of the carrier frequency in the future, but the individual amplification system cannot cope with the request. In order to cope with the request at least to some extent, the pass bands of the filters 14-1, 14-2, ..., 14-n are set equal to each other and the carrier frequency band of all of the channels is set as the pass band in some cases. However, in this case, it is also necessary to insert the isolators in order to improve the channel selectivity. Therefore, the power combiner 18 becomes complicated in construction.